The Orthodox Herald

Read in more than 7500 households *"Celebrating our 49th year" 1952-2000*

Volume 49, No. 9 ISSUE 584 JANUARY 2001

GODPARENTS

Being asked to be a godparent is not only a great honor and privilege but a great responsibility. What greater privilege than that of helping to bring a person to the Lord as a faithful member of His Holy Church?

Before you accept being a godparent you should reflect upon some important matter. As the name indicates, a godparent is one who assumes a spiritual relationship toward the person in Baptism and is specially concerned about his spiritual nurture. The godparent and the parents are involved in a mutual task; the gradual instruction of the person to the meaning of his life, to his calling in Christ to constant service of God and to following the rules of the Church.

Certainly, there must be somewhere in your mind where you question whether you are the person to take on such a responsibility. Are you really interested in seeing that the person continues to grow in Christian character and becomes a loyal communicant of the Orthodox Church? Are you, yourself, a loyal communicant? Are you able to honestly and sincerely make the promises which you will be asked to make? If you are a godparent to a child you will be asked to undertake these beliefs on behalf of the child:

1. To renounce Satan and all his evils.
2. To believe all the articles of the Creed of the Church.
3. To see that the child is instructed in faith, prayer, and the Commandments of God and lives by them.

Now that you have weighed all this and accepted the responsibility, what are your duties?

1. Keep in constant touch with the family and the baptized
2. Remember the birthday or nameday of the godchild
3. Provide the baptized with a Bible, prayer book and religious articles from time to time.
4. Take your godchild to Holy Communion, especially at Eastertime.
5. When the child is old enough, take

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THE BLESSING OF HOMES

A priest, now gone, said that he gauges how interested people are in things of God not by what percentage come to Holy Communion, but what percentage have their houses blessed. It seems to be a strange observation. But we may well ask ourselves whether we look forward to the yearly blessing of our homes the way our ancestors did. Do we look forward to the prayers and sprinkling with Holy Water to rid our house of every evil and to fill it with every blessing? That the house itself, together with all living members of your family be "filled with all the fullness of God?"

It is the responsibility of every priest to visit your home and bless it; it is your Christian responsibility to ask for this blessing.

Prepare for the coming of the priest by

1. Placing a white cloth on your table or near your icon corner. On it place a candle, an icon or cross, and a wide bowl for the Holy Water.
2. Make a list with the first name of all who you wish the priest to pray for. Place it on the table.
3. When the priest arrives, turn off TVs, stereos, computers, etc. Light the candle.
4. Ask all in the house to gather around the table and, if possible, join in singing the responses and tropar.
5. When the priest is ready to bless the house, a member of the family should take

(Continued on Page 51 Col. 1)

ST. BASIL

On January 1/14 we commemorate St. Basil. He died on this day in the year 379. Many men in this country carry his name, but many may be called Vasil, Wasko, Vasely, Vasha, Wesley, Wash, and even Charles or William.

St. Basil was born to a renowned, old Christian family of wealth. The family had a remarkable religious history: his grandmother, Macrina, the elder; his father, Basil, the elder; his mother, Emelia; his older sister, Macrina; and two younger brothers, Gregory of Nyssa and Peter of Sebastea, were recognized as saints. Seven - in all. Besides this, his very good friend, Gregory of Nazianzas, was also recognized as a saint.

He was well educated, studying in schools in Caesarea, Constantinople and Athens. After he finished his formal education, he stayed in several monasteries, where he exerted great influence on the monastic life. His instructions are practiced in the Orthodox Church to this day.

When he was 40 in 370, he took action against the persecution of Orthodox Christians by the Emperor Valens, who was an Arian. Valens feared him and tried to diminish his authority by administrative measures, which made life very difficult for Basil.

On the other hand, Basil admitted to being headstrong and tactless, which contributed to some of his difficulties. He once wrote, "For my sins, I seem to fail in everything."

He wrote much that has been preserved. Among them are "Directions for a Disciple to Live a Christian Life." The following can be found among the twelve paragraphs: "One should be patient, whatever one has to suffer. Even though we have the right to rebuke the one who has wronged us, we must not do this in passion for having been wronged, but in the hopes of correcting a brother, according to the precept of the Lord." Another reads: "The Christian ought to have thoughts worthy of his heavenly calling and order his life to be worthy of the Gospel of Christ." A third

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NEWS CHRONOLOGY

JANUARY 2001

DIED: Fr. George Timko, retired, in Buffalo, NY
Fr. Michael Meredith, retired, in Titusville, FL
Monk Anthony (Duchaine), S. Canaan, PA

AT THIS TIME we do not have any more Easter Basket Covers for sale. We have only a few Rushnykis and Chotkis.

THE MUSICA RUSSICA CD BUYING GUIDE lists the latest and the best CDs of Orthodox liturgical music and Russian folk music. Many are imports from Russia not available elsewhere. For a complimentary catalog, call 1-800-326-3132 or visit on the web at www.musicarussica.com.

THE MISSION PARISH IN Inverness, Florida, organized by Fr. Philip Reese and now served by Fr. George Breyan, has chosen as their patron St. Raphael, who was recognized as a saint on May 28, 2000 at St. Tikhon's Monastery.

PREPARING FOR ITS 85th anniversary is the parish of Holy Resurrection Church in West Brownsville, PA. Small in size but large in spirit, they hold many fund-raising events to continue their presence in the Mon-valley. Fr. Samuel Smolcic is pastor.

THE CAN'T THEY GET ANOTHER NAME DEPARTMENT. The latest addition to this department is the "Digital Angel," which was unveiled by a NASDAQ-traded company. This highly-touted and highly-controversial subdermal microchip implant was designed to track pets and humans worldwide.

VISA AND MASTERCARD are being accepted by the Romanian Episcopate, PO Box 185, Grand Lake, MI 49240-0185 for pledges, donations and purchase of items.

FIRST NATIVE ALEUT woman was tonsured as a nun in Anchorage. Rasophore nun Susan had been a novice at the monastery in Ellwood City, PA from 1987-92, after serving as a professional nurse for several years. She then completed a 3-year seminary course at St. Herman's Seminary. She received the name Capetolina at her tonsuring and is working to establish an Orthodox community for women, The Protecting Veil of the Mother of God in the Anchorage area.

AT SAGUNA ONLINE you can study Orthodox theology. To receive an application packet, send name, address, phone number and Email address to Saguna Online, ROEA/DORE, 3365 Ridgewood R., Fairlawn, OH 44333 or Email to StAndrews@michigan.com

SELLING RELIGIOUS BOOKS FOR CHILDREN. Contact Christ the Saviour Publishing, PO Box 265, Ash Grove, MO 65604 or call 417/751-3183.

A LETTER TO DEAR ABBY asked what the proper etiquette was for appearing in public after a husband (spouse) dies. The Orthodox tells us that we are given 40 days to mourn and refrain from social events.

THE ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH celebrates Christmas together with Epiphany on January 6.

SOUPER BOWL OF SHARING is sponsored by IOCC the Orthodox Charitable Organization. Parishioners are asked to give a donation or a can of food to feed the hungry when they attend church service on Super Bowl Sunday. For info call toll free 877/803-4622.

A POSITION is available as academic administrator at The Patriarch Athenagoras Orthodox Institute, an affiliate of the Graduate Theological Union with a special relationship to the University of California in Berkeley, CA. For information contact: Search Committee, The Orthodox Institute, 2311 Hearst Ave., Berkeley, CA 94709, or call 510-649-2450 or FAX 510-841-6605.

A FESTIVAL OF ORTHODOX CHRISTIANITY, sponsored by 15 area churches of North Texas, will be held at Holy Trinity Church, 13555 Hillcrest Road, Dallas, TX on February 10 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The day will be filled with workshops, listening to speakers, worship, fellowship. For more info call 972/980-8826 or www.goarch.org/festivalof orthodoxy/ or email ezan@flash.net.

AN ICON of the Saints of Carpatho-Rus and a booklet about their lives is available from St. Thomas Church, 6705 Sleepy Hollow Rd., LaPlata, MD 20646. Depicted are Maxim of Gorlice, Ludmila, Procopius, Rostislav, the brothers Cyril and Methodius, Wenceslas, Alexis of Wilkes-Barre, Ephrem, Moses the Hungarian, Gorazd and Alexis of Khust.

IN POLAND the Orthodox Church plans to build a church near the Warsaw Airport. It will be the first Orthodox Church to be built in this city in 100 years. The church will hold over 1000 worshippers and will be in the Byzantine style common in the Peloponnessus region of Greece. It will not have onion-shaped domes. There is resistance to its building from the Roman Catholic Church.

THE CAMBRIDGE INSTITUTE FOR ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN STUDIES offers certificates and degrees to enrollees. It tailors the course of study to individual needs. For info: Orthodox Christian Studies, Wesley House, Jesus Lane, Cambridge CB5 8BJ England or Email info2iocs.cam.ac.uk

THE LAST PRIEST TO SERVE in the People's Republic of China, Fr. Gregory Zhou died in Harbin. He was buried without a priest present because the authorities refused the request of parishioners to allow a priest to visit and perform the burial. Orthodoxy has been in China since 635 AD mostly in the cities of the north and east sections of the country.

ONE DELIVERED TO THE SAINTS by Fr. Michael Azkoul is available from St. Nectarios Press, 10300 Ashworth Ave., N, Seattle, WA 98133-9410 ph. 1-800-643-4233 for $26 ppd. It offers a scholarly view of contemporary church and spiritual life in view of the history of the Church. He maintains that we must hold fast to the teachings of Orthodoxy.

•Godparents

im to church and church school. If its an lder person, encourage attendance at hurch, Bible and religious studies.

6. Talk with enthusiasm about your faith nd the Holy Church.

There are other actions that could be uggested but perhaps the most important ne is – Be a good example of a spiritual arent.

•The Blessing of Homes

he lighted candle and precede the priest nto the places you want blessed.

6. Do not be upset, if the priest does not tay and chat or refuses your offer of food. He has many houses left on the schedule, nd others do not want to be kept waiting.

7. If you wish to give the priest an honorarium, place it in an envelope and give it o him or the person who accompanies him fter the blessing is over.

After the priest leaves, be still. Don't you eel a difference in the atmosphere of the ouse?

•St. Basil

aragraph reads: "The Christian must not et anything blow or drag away from the emembrance of God, His will and His Judgments." Good advice!

HISTORY OF THE CELEBRATION OF THEOPHANY

The commemoration of the day Jesus ccepted baptism in the River Jordan by St. John the Baptist is mentioned in all our Gospels (Matthew 3:1-17; Mark 1:1-13; Luke 3:1-12; John 1:1-34).

The great event was observed very early n the Church. In the 2nd century A.D., nd perhaps even earlier, Clement of Alexandria, one of the Apostolic Fathers, writes about it. It was first introduced in he churches of the East, specifically in Palestine and Syria and later it was celebrated in the West.

According to Clement, the Christians athered on January 5/18, the night before Theophany, and read passages from the Holy Bible. They remained throughout the night in the house of worship, praying, hanting and glorifying the Lord.

In the 4th century AD, Archbishop Theophilos of Alexandria tells us that the Christians observed the Theophany from he day before, abstaining from every food. The services started on the eve at 3 p.m. After the services on the eve, the new catechumens were baptized. Because of this, water is blessed both on the eve of Theophany and on the day itself.

For a long time this day, the Baptism of Jesus, was celebrated more than was Christmas or the Nativity of Christ. In fact, the "Christmas," celebrated by the Apostolic Church as mentioned in this month's Chronology, is really a celebration of the combined days.

SLOW DOWN

As we travel at great speed down a highway, we may see a sign which warns us "Slow down, Lower speed ahead." In much the same way we see the Sunday of Zacchaeus on the calendar and we take it as a warning." Slow down, Great Lent ahead."

This year, the Sunday of Zacchaeus comes on the last Sunday of January - the 28th. We read about Zacchaeus in Luke 19:1-10. This Sunday looks directly to the coming fast, describing how Zacchaeus climbed a tree beside the road where Christ was to pass. We note Zacchaeus' sense of eager expectation, the intensity of his desire to see Our Lord. We should have this same sense as we prepare for Great Lent. There should be real eagerness in our hearts, if we have an intense desire for a clearer vision of Christ. Our hopes will be fulfilled during the Lent, and, like Zacchaeus, we shall receive more than we expect.

Each of us is a house in which sin dwells, while Christ is far away and to which salvation comes as He draws near. Whether Christ is able or not to draw near to our house depends on us. How eagerly do we await Him? We see that Christ did not force an entry into Zacchaeus' house, but came as a warmly invited and eagerly awaited guest. We must seek Him eagerly to find Him. Let's slow down and get ready and invite Him.

CARPATHIAN TOUR NOTES

After taking almost ten tours of the Carpathian Mountain region, we've discovered that, for many of our travelers, the chance to relive their pasts or trace their heritage in this region is what encourages them to take the tour. We feel privileged to have been part of special "homecomings" such as the following:

Sometimes it is an interest in geneaology that spurs many on their journey. One young woman brought her husband and her parents along. Her parents had emigrated to the U.S. from the Lemko area many years ago. Through her research, they were able to visit many villages which her father remembered. She has since set up a family reunion of relatives scattered all over America and shares her experiences with them.

One man had only a birth certificate of his parents. His excitement built as the bus traveled toward the village mentioned on the certificate. The tour director had-contacted a knowledgeable driver to pick him up as the bus passed through and to drive him to the village. As the car drove through the street, the village "elder" was asked for directions. Our man was taken to the church where his grandparents were baptized and found it an emotional experience. He was very excited when he spotted the creek where his grandmother washed the flax and identified other buildings he had heard about as a little child. Unfortunately, there were no relatives remaining in the village.

Another man looked for relatives. He was fortunate to find many. His biggest amazement was finding a person who looked enough like him to be his twin except he had a full head of hair!

So many different experiences.

Perhaps one striking constant is in the reception of these strangers from America. Our tour members always comment on the hospitality and kindness of those they meet. They are always received so warmly. Those who have no relatives do not feel left out as Father Basil's relatives in Novo Dovidnovo, along with the parish priest, Father Joseph, wait for the bus to arrive, greet everyone exiting the bus with a hug and kind words, and invite them into their homes for "hostinas," which will never be forgotten. Yes, Hostinas, in the plural. God bless them all. They have made so many Americans "friends" - krayani.

* * * * * *

Mankind needs saving: saving from ourselves and saving from our strengths just as much as from our weaknesses. Technology or education is not enough. We need a Saviour. The church of Christ was primarily founded to bring salvation, healing and forgiveness to our world.

* * * * * *

I never dared to begin prayer without a book...which was like a shield to sustain the blows of my many thoughts which ran wild. But with a book I began to collect them. Many times just opening the book was enough, at other times I read a little, and at other times a great deal.

St. Theresa of Avila

ETHNIC CHUCKLE

Dorohaya Tyotya Marea,

Yak tam kolo vas? Toot shitko going OK. No yah mala takee experience. Yah dumala zhe yah scrazuyu. Tak Pesshlo.

A bunch of us dumalee zeh it would be very nice to go kolyadovatee. We decided to get the old costumes out of attics in the church and get dressed upyak kolee bullo. Mi dostalee costumes, poh cleanovalee and did repairachki. Me got dressed nah Rustvo and me peeshlee spevatee kolyadee.

Me malee takee fun. In each house ohne nas hostilee ee me went from house to house until preshlo dark. One of our parifionee z'mofovalee doh novee house nah suburbs and we tried to find it.Me hladalee ee hladalee. Soon we saw a police car coming. We became takee silly boh we were getting kindah cold ee wet. Me dumam ohn pomozhe nam for sure.Ohn preshol doh nas eeh asked: "What you doing?" Me telling him zhe we looking for The Zamalansky house. Ohn asked: "What's the number and street?" Me neh znalee for sure boh Zamlansky nam give directions ot causewaya. Policeman became suspicious eeh calloval police station eh druhee police car ee vans preshlee ee nas za bralee doh lakopi headquarters.

Ohnee nas asked za nashee ID's. Me neh malee boh me leaveovalee u churchhall kolee me changovalee doh costumes. Then ohnee asked what we were celebrating Mardi Gra or Halloween. Then ohne povili nam zhe ohne budyut holding us for public nusiance. We were a little loud, giggly and rowdy ot fundavanya.

Suddenly, we decided - call our priest - he'll vouch for us! Mecalovalee Fadera a ohn neh bull doma! To make matters worse some of our singers got sick from too much stress and to much hospitality!

Anyhow, finally everything got straightened out. Me spevalee kolyadee nah police station ee ohne collectovalee donation nah church.

Me neh zabudem tot Christmas.

Thank you zah picture of your kolyadnekee. Yah Brala picture of nas in our costumes ee yah pushlyou vam next time.

Budte Zdrove
Spevanka Hanya.

PRESS FUND

Thank you all for your concern. You want us to keep publishing as bad as we do. May God be with you. Spasebo to: Irene Allen, Joseph Lesnick, Anonymous (2), Gerasim Mayden, Geri and **John Petronka,** Elaine Petouhoff, Susan Boris, Richard Jankura, **Helen Durniak,** Helen Bespolka, Helen Frinsko, Helen Tucker, Ann Cholod, John Homa, Susan Felch, Faye Fick, Edward Scarpari, Mary Adam, Jeanette Siwy, **Shirley Sass,** Stella Sholomicky, Mary Kochmaruk, **Anna Dorozynski,** Ethel Watlock, Walter Prosen, Sophia and Eli McKay, **Allen Lucas,** Jack and Mary Arndt. Christmas gifts from Doris Rusinko; Dorothy and Peter Petronko; Carole and Don Holobinko. Marina Roudenko prayers for health of Fr. Alexander, Matushka and Alexi Golubov. Rosalia Peters prayers in memory of her nephew Michael who died in November 2000. **George Brozina** in memory of **Archimandrite Innocent (Fryntzko). In thanks for 50 years of printing from Fr. Joseph and Matushka Marie Kreta.** Annastazia Zahirsky in memory of Anna Boyko and Pauline Chernesky. **Helen Lesko** in memory of her mother **Eva Durkot** who died on October 17, 2000. Frances Migdal in memory of Bishop Benjamin and Fr. and Matushka Migdal. In memory of Marion Nazarenko who died on February 16, 2000. Matushka Stroyen in memory of **Max** who has no one left to pray for him. National Slovak Society.

BIBLE QUIZ

1. Who walked on the Sea of Galilee?
2. What did Moses do to heal the bitter waters of Marah?
3. Who was healed of leprosy after dipping seven times in the Jordan?
4. What river was turned into blood?
5. Who turned water into wine?
6. Who calmed the sea by speaking to it?
7. Who parted the Jordan by striking it with his mantle?

ANSWERS:
1. Jesus and Peter (Matthew 14:25-31
2. He cast a tree into the waters (Exodus (15:23-25)
3. Naaman the Syrian (2 Kings 5:14)
4. The Nile (Exodus 7:20)
5. Jesus (John 2:1-10
6. Jesus (Mark 4:39)
7. Elijah (2 Kings 2:8-14

* * * * * *

To worship is to quicken the conscience by the holiness of God, to feed the mind with the truth of God, to purge the imagination by the beauty of God, to open the heart to the love of God, to devote the will to the purpose of God.

* * * * * *

The trouble with most of us is that we would rather be ruined by praise than saved by criticism.

Dabs of Thoughts

Freedom of religion was not meant to be Freedom from religion.

Martin Luther took 7 books (Tobit, Judith, Wisdom, Sirach, Baruch, 1 & 2 Maccabees) out of the Old Testament. He also had trouble with verses such as James 2:24 "See how a person is justified by works and not by faith alone." So he inserted the word alone in Romans 3:28 to make it read "For we hold that a man is justified by faith alone apart from the observance of the law."

How many of our ancestors had to practice their "real religion" in secrecy because of pressure from civil authorities?

It is good to see so many missions being organized. Upon inquiry we are told that they are not ethnic. Would multi-ethnic be a better term?

The person who says he is kept away from the church by hypocrites is not influenced to stay away from them in all other walks of life. Business is full of them, and if a businessman sees a chance to make money, he doesn't let the hypocrites stop him. Society is full of them, but he never thinks of becoming a hermit. Hell is full of them, but he isn't doing anything to avoid going there. He wants you to think that he is trying to avoid hypocrites, and yet he takes not a single step toward the place where they may not exist – heaven.

We crucify ourselves between two thieves – regret for yesterday and fear for tomorrow.

Many icons of the Crucifixion picture a halo on one of the Roman soldiers. This is St. Longinus, the centurion who said at the Crucifixion: "Truly this man is the Son of God." (Matt 29:34; Mark 15:39).

Apostles James and John were the sons of Zebedee. They were relatives of Jesus. Their mother Salome was a daughter of St. Joseph, making her Jesus' stepsister.

Damascus, Syria, the oldest inhabited city in the world, has the "Street called straight." (Acts 9:11) St. Paul was directed to go there to be healed of the blindness with which he was stricken. Ananias healed him here.

Father Zosimas, a priest in the book The Brothers Karamazov, was patterned after Staretz Amvrosy of Optina Monastery in Russia.



EDITORS' NOTES

We want to thank all those who are responsible for distributing The Orthodox Herald through the Packet Plan. We appreciate your prompt attention to the yearly billing, which was mailed mid-November.

Some of our readers have contacted us and told us how much they enjoy the Bible Quiz. The quiz and a Bible are taken to Perogi Making Sessions and the questions are asked and discussed and then not only the verse giving the answer but the verses before and after which are applicable are read. Sure cuts down on un-Christian gossip.

Sorry to write that we no longer have any Easter Basket covers and have only 2 Ruchnyks and 3 chotki left. We do not anticipate ordering anymore in the near future.

We have received inquiries concerning a tour to the Carpathian area and/or BeloRussia. We will set up a tour if there is enough interest. Please let us know within the next few weeks if interested.

There are at least 10 Orthodox seminaries in this country. They are all faced with the same problems. One of them is the background of the students. We are all aware that the public schools in our country not only exclude any mention of God but are antagonistic toward religion. The problem is greater than not allowing prayer in school. If after twelve years of public school, a young man elects to go to college, he spends at least four more years of intense propaganda against a belief in God. If, by some miracle, he decides to go to a seminary, he comes with all this negative baggage. Perhaps, it is time to return to the tradition of the Church, which encouraged young men to enroll in the seminary after high school and defer college until graduation from the seminary. By this time he is more prepared to defend and keep his faith and learn about the beliefs of others. This would serve him better in his pastoral work.

Belief, dedication and zeal for the Orthodox faith will gauge its future as it has its past. The education of clergy is of utmost importance and we must follow our own tried pattern and not try to imitate others, especially those who are having problems in recruiting seminarians. *The Stroyens*

READY TO SACRIFICE?

On Sunday, January 28, we begin our spiritual preparation for Lent. We see Zaccheus, the tax collector, who sacrificed his dignity to see Christ. He actually put himself in danger by climbing the sycamore tree in a crowd which certainly contained many people who resented him because of his profession – a servant of the hated Roman regime.

Zaccheus obtained his desire because of his sacrifice. He saw Jesus, Who honored his sacrifice by going to his home to eat with him. What joy this was! Zaccheus responded to this sign of love by repenting in a most costly way, as we read in today's Gospel - Luke 19:1-10.

That is the way to come to God! We have to sacrifice. Actually God Himself made the greatest sacrifice by giving Himself for us upon the Cross in Jesus, the Second Person of the Holy Trinity. Without sacrifice we cannot find God, nor our neighbor, nor even our own true selves. This is the way God made the universe.

Can we say that we love God, or our children, or our spouses, or our Church if we do not make any sacrifices for them? Most definitely not! What are we ready to sacrifice for God today? Our pride? Our time? Our comfort? Our independence? God loves us to the ultimate - to the point of dying for us. Let us love Him!

Fr. Ihor Kutash, Ph.D.

MEDITATION

God our Father, the Source of Good Health, be near those who are sick, especially Your servant(s) N.. Grant that through the prayers of Your church, he (she/they) be restored back to health and be granted a long and happy life. We pray to You, O Fountain of healing, hear us and have mercy.

O Lord, You heal the broken-hearted and bind up the wounds of the infirm: in Your mercy, stretch forth Your hand that is full of healing upon Your servants. Grant them strength in body and soul, the repulsion of every illness, and from everything that may oppress them by day or throughout the night. O Divine Physician, hear our petitions, and quickly have mercy on us.

Look down, O Lord, from Your Throne in heaven and come to the aid of Your servants who are sick. Make their hearts glad in the thought of Your nearness. Surround them with Your holy angels, so that, guided and guarded by them, their health may be restored and may glorify You all the days of their lives.We pray to You, hear us and have mercy.

Ray Mastroberte, Cantor/Iconographer



KITCHEN CORNER

This traditional recipe would make a hit on the New Year's table. With convenient supplies from our well-stocked supermarket shelves, it is also easy. I'm sure it will also appeal to the men who try these recipes and write or call me to comment on them. This recipe for Ham Roulades (Rulyety iz Vetchiny) is easy to make and, guys, it makes a good presentation.

HAM ROULADE (Rolls)

2 medium onions, chopped
1 Tbls. butter
8 slices cooked ham, very thinly sliced
2 medium whole pickles, cut in strips
2 cooked carrots, cut in 1/2 to 1 inch strips
2 slices black bread, cut in 1/2 to 1 inch strips
4 Tbls. flour
1/4 cup oil
2 cups broth, chicken or beef
1/2 cup sour cream, room temperature
salt and pepper

Saute onions in butter. Meanwhile, place on center of each slice of ham 1 or 2 strips of pickle, carrot, bread and onions. Roll ham up and tie about 1 inch from edge of roll with twine or fasten with skewers. Dredge the ham rolls with flour. Brown them on all sides, turning frequently. Add broth, stir and let simmer for about 10 minutes. Add sour cream and let set for a few more minutes. Season with salt and pepper. Before serving, remove twine or skewers. Serve the sauce. Good with mashed or small boiled potatoes.

* * * * * *

The value and reality of our souls is at least as much social as individual. We do, and must, reinforce each other; make good each other's weakness. Each saint has something to give which adds to the glow of all saints; and only self-loss in that one radiance can make his life complete. Thus, intercession is the activity of a spirit which is a member of this living society, this fabric of prayer souls penetrated and irradiated by God-Spirit. (Evelyn Underhill.

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"Before the evil one can control our souls, he must first control our minds."

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PUTTING ON CHRIST

On Christmas, Theophany, Easter, Pentecost, Great Saturday and Lazarus Saturday we hear the words: "As many as have been baptized unto Christ have put on Christ. Alleluia!"

This is sung at the Divine Liturgy in place of "Holy God, Holy, Mighty, Holy Immortal have mercy on me."

This is one of the oldest hymns in the Church, and like so much of the Orthodox Liturgy comes right out of the Bible. We find it in St. Paul's Letter to the Galatians 3:25-27 where he writes: "for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God through faith. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ."

At our baptism, we were clothed with a special christening or baptismal gown. It is now fashionable in many families to pass these down from generation to generation. This gown was placed on us following the baptism. Because of this instead of bringing the baby to church already dressed in the christening gown and having to remove it, it is better to dress the baby in other clothes which can be easily removed. After baptism, the baby is dressed in his new white gown that stands for purity and holiness that is of Christ. No spots, no stains, no tears or rips. That is the condition of our very being at the moment: without sin. The new Christian, in his new gown had "put on Christ."

The hymn was sung "As many as have been baptized unto Christ have put on Christ. Allelulia!" because many baptisms were common in early Christianity following a series of instructions. It has been retained throughout the centuries to remind us of the baptismal vows we made or which were made for us.

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Some parishes are full of willing people; some willing to work, the rest willing to let them.

Home Bible Reading Schedule

JANUARY 2001

1	Hebrews 3:5-10, 17-19		13:22-25
2	Hebrews 4:1-13	17	James 1:1-18
3	Hebrews 5:11-6:8	18	James 1:19-27
4	Hebrews 7:1-6	19	James 2:1-13
5	Hebrews 7:18-25	20	Colossians 1:1-6
6	Ephesians 2:11-13	21	1 Timothy 1:15-17
7	Colossians 3:4-11	22	James 2:14-26
8	Hebrews 8:7-13	23	James 3:1-10
9	Hebrews 9:8-10, 15-23	24	James 3:11-4:6
10	Hebrews 10:1-18	25	James 4:7-5:9
11	Hebrews 10:35-11:7	26	1 Peter 1:1-2, 10-12
12	Hebrews 11:8-16	27	1 Thessalonians 5:14-23
13	Ephesians 5:1-8	28	1 Timothy 4:9-15
14	Colossians 3:12-16	29	1 Peter 2:21-3:9
15	Hebrews 11:17-31	30	1 Peter 3:10-22
16	Hebrews 12:25-27;	31	1 Peter 4:1-11

BIBLE STUDY

Every computer printer shipped by a Colorado company is first frozen, then heated to 130 degrees Fahrenheit, and finally shaken violently for a quarter of an hour. This testing is the final step in a process called "ruggedization," which prepares an ordinary printer for use by the military. With its circuit boards secured and all components enclosed in a metal case, the printer is thoroughly tested to make sure it will work on the battlefield.

If that reminds you of the spiritual ruggedization you're undergoing, take heart. Perhaps you are being tested to prepare you to better serve Him. When we find ourselves in difficult circumstances, the Bible can offer us spiritual instruction. In James 1:2-3 we read: "Count it all joy ... knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience."

Through it all, we can ask God for wisdom. Why? So that we might know how to respond properly to our problems and trials. In verse 5, it tells us that God gives this wisdom "liberally" to all who ask.

If life was like a clean, air-conditioned office, then just going to church occasionally Christianity would be adequate. But we inhabit a world engulfed in a life-or-death spiritual battle. As we trust God through the difficult times, we'll become rugged and ready, tested and prepared for greater usefulness. We must remember that God allows adversity into our lives not to break us but to better ruggedize us.

FUNDS

ALASKA - **Elizabeth Patnychuk,** Anna Polenenke for health Father Wiaczeslaw, Matushka Elizabeth Krawczuk, children and mama.

MISSION - **Olga Peck, Mary Zemanik** for health of Father Basil, Matushka Nina, Mary, Elizabeth and Anastasia. Nancy Krull, Anna Polehinke in memory of parents Anna and Stephen Datz, **National Slovak Society.** For health of Sally Agrella from family.

BOTH ALASKA AND MISSION FUNDS - Anonymous, Ethel Watlock, Mary Adam, Jeanette Siwy, John Homa.

A plea has gone out from the OCA to help the work in Alaska. It tells of the inadequate salary of the priests and the need to subsidize these salaries. For the past **49 years,** we have had an Alaska Fund from which we have been sending copies of The Orthodox Herald to most parishes and missions in Alaska. We have written of the inroads that sects are making among our baptized Orthodox. This has been going on for years. Those Orthodox working in Alaska are doing yeoman work. Our hearts and prayers go out to them. We are glad that in our little way, with your help, we have been doing our bit.

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Guided by the Holy Spirit, the Holy Fathers at the Council of Nicea in 325 AD decided which books to place in the Bible.